

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1367

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Donnie Ray Eblen of Kingston.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Donnie Ray Eblen of Kingston; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Ray Eblen was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a beef cattle farmer, Mr. Eblen took immense pride in his farm; he served as vice president of the Farm Bureau in Roane County and was a member of the Farm Service Agency; and

WHEREAS, before taking his much-deserved retirement, Mr. Eblen enjoyed a thirty-eight-year career as an employee at the Y-12 Plant in Oak Ridge, where he earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eblen was a member of the East Roane County Volunteer Fire Department for twenty-eight years, during which time he served eighteen years as the Chief, and he served as a chairman of the Roane County 911 Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eblen was a faithful member of New Midway Baptist Church, which he served in a number of capacities; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to his family, Mr. Eblen always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eblen will be fondly remembered but sadly mourned by his loving wife of forty-two years, Pam Eblen; son, Travis (Matt) Palafox-Eblen; parents, Raymond and Faye Eblen; sisters, Debbie (Jack) Barker and Cathy Hamby; and several nieces, nephews, cousins, and a host of dear friends and fellow firefighters; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eblen was preceded in death by his grandparents, Kaney and Eula Eblen and Ruth McKee, and mother-in-law, Hazel Cook; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Ray Eblen leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Donnie Ray Eblen, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Eblen.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.